

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FLOREN 00113 101048Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
DODE-00 /022 W

-----101724Z 103169 /40

R 100900Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1627
USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL MILAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FLORENCE 0113

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, IT
SUBJECT: ONE VIEW OF WHAT IS BEHIND CHANGES AT "IL RESTO
DEL CARLINO" AND "LA NAZIONE"

REF: FLORENCE 100, FLORENCE 112

1. A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE HAS PROVIDED US WITH
FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING LAST WEEK,S FIRINGS OF
DIRECTORS OF FLORENCE AND BOLOGNA DAILIES, LA NAZIONE AND
IL RESTO DEL CARLINO.
 2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE RIZZOLI IS BEHIND MOVE AND HAS
ALREADY PURCHASED NINE PERCENT OF MONTI COMPANY WHICH OWNS
NEWSPAPER CHAIN WHICH INCLUDES THESE TWO PAPERS. IN
COMING MONTHS RIZZOLI WILL BUY CONTROLLING INTEREST.
CONDITIONS FOR PURCHASE WERE FIRINGS OF BARTOLI AND PIERONI,
BOTH OPPONENTS OF SOFT LINE TOWARD COMMUNISTS.
INTENTION IS TO FIT TWO PAPERS INTO CURRENT EDITORIAL
PATTERN OF RIZZOLI-OWNED "CORRIERE DELLA SERA" WHICH HAS
BEEN FAR MORE CHARITABLE AND FLEXIBLE IN ITS ATTITUDE
TOWARD PCI AND TOWARDS IDEA OF SOME FORM OF GOVERNMENTAL
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MODUS VIVENDI WITH COMMUNISTS. BEHIND RIZZOLI ARE
PROMINENT CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WHO WISH THE GREATER
ELBOWROOM AFFORDED BY THE ABOLITION OF ANTI-COMMUNIST
POLICIES.

3. COMMENT. THIS INFORMATION IS CONSONANT WITH OTHER
SPECULATION AND INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED MOST RECENTLY

AND PROVIDES MOST CREDIBLE EXPLANATION YET TO COME TO
OUR ATTENTION CONCERNING SUDDEN DISMISSALS OF BARTOLI AND
PIERONI. GORDON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDITORS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FLOREN00113
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770082-1272
Format: TEL
From: FLORENCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770371/aaaackkf.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3ae43dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 FLORENCE 100, 77 FLORENCE 112
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3144412
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ONE VIEW OF WHAT IS BEHIND CHANGES AT "IL RESTO DEL CARLINO" AND "LA NAZIONE"
TAGS: SOPN, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3ae43dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009